**HAWAII MARINE C SECTION** FEBRUARY 18, 2005



Reds right fielder Kyle Thomas (left) slides back onto first base from a long lead off as Eagles first basemen Ben Bownas attempts to get him out after receiving the ball from the pitcher in intramural baseball action Monday at Riseley Field.

# Eagles soar over Reds

Sgt. Jereme L. Edwards Combat Correspondent

The Patrol Squadron 9 Eagles triumphed over the 1st battalion 12th Marine Regiment Reds Monday, 8-2 in intramural baseball action at Riseley Field.

Both teams hit the diamond ready to play. The first inning was over it seemed before it started, as both teams struggled to get their members around the bases. Problems arose especially with pitching, while in and outfielding that could rival any professional team.

The top of the second seemed to foretell the rest of the game. Eagles center Mark sat right back down. Harlow stepped to the plate and with a swing as mighty as the "The Great to the second as Eagles second basemen

Bambino," sent the ball flying out of the Nate Ostensen, pitcher Dave Harrington park, claiming a home run and the first score of the game. The next batter, center fielder Travis Krueger, entered the batters' box and sent the ball out of the park, making the score 2-0 Eagles. Next up was first basemen Ben Bownas, who wasn't as successful as his predecessors, couldn't make it off the plate; however, third basemen Patt Holden was able to make it to first, to help the next batter by showing some fancy footwork, stealing his way home, bringing the

The third inning looked almost identical

and Krueger all managed to score a run a piece, bringing the score to 6-0.

One key difference in this inning was in the bottom, Reds center fielder Anthony Witt and right fielder Kyle Thomas managed to bring in two runs making the score,

In the top of the fourth, Eagles shortstop Scott Sander scored another run, but no one else was quite able to make it around the diamond.

The bottom of the fourth and the entire The bottom of the second wasn't as fifth inning yielded no runs, as batters from eventful as the three batters that went up both teams went up and came down; however, in the top of the sixth, Eagles first

See BASEBALL, C-5

# Demon Deacons slay 3rd Radio

Sgt. Jereme L. Edwards Combat Correspondent

Headquarters Battalion Demon Deacons claimed its fifth straight victory by defeating 3rd Radio Battalion Monday, 61-30 in intramural basketball action at the Semper Fit Gymnasium.

After a shaky start to their season, losing their first three games, the Headquarters Battalion "Demon Deacons" now, 5–3, hit the court ready to perform.

Demon Deacons forward Robert Mitchell kick-started the game right by draining a threepointer and the bucket rolled from there. Demon Deacons guards John Barros and Kevin Martin each scored an easy two. Mitchell, really wanting to put the nail in the coffin early, drained another bucket, making the score 9-0 in just moments.

However, this point spread quickly went to the heads of the Demon Deacons, as they began to bumble many simple passes causing more turnovers than most bakeries sell in a day.

Truly willing to take advantage of the Deacons big-head syndrome, 3rd Radio Battalion, lead by

the quick feet and cool head under pressure of power forward Ty Brown, launched a 9-0 streak of their own. This proved that they should not be underestimated.

Dismayed by the sudden turn of events, Demon Deacons Coach William Cohen called a timeout to confer with his team. This pep talk seemed to be all they needed as the intensity that ensued after they hit the court could easily be described as wild tigers being released from

The score volleyed back and forth for a while, but with a little more than four minutes left in the half, the Demon Deacons made a full out frontal assault on their opponent's basket.

The Demon Deacons, lead by center Robert Griffin, unleashed punishing hailstorm of buckets, tilting the scoreboard well in their favor and closing out the half, 28-19.

The beginning of the second half showed a glimmer of promise for Radio Battalion as point guard Mike Voyred and strong forward Armah Jones used some great teamwork to put two

See BASKETBALL, C-5



Demon Deacons guard Antonio brown goes for the rebound after a missed free throw attempt during a game against 3rd Radio Battalion.

# Pro Bowl fans honor Purple Heart awardees

Sgt. Ryan O'Hare U.S. Marine Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — As the sun rose above Aloha Stadium and the warm Hawaiian heat blanketed the crowd, the smell of grilled food and the anticipation of another great Pro Bowl filled the air.

Pro Bowl 2005 kicked off at Aloha Stadium Feb. 13, but besides watching the best of the best in football battle it out for conference bragging rights, the crowd also applauded for nearly 100 Purple Heart recipients who were honored during the pre-game show.

As the recipients steadily marched off the field, the stadium fans gave a standing ovation and cheered the heroes. Adm. Thomas B. Fargo, commander, U.S. Pacific Command and honored Pro Bowl guests then walked out to midfield for the coin toss.

"The best part about being out here is being with these Purple Heart winners, they're the real heroes," said Fargo. "I think it's tremendous. These young men and women who are on the front lines of their nations defense have done a fabulous job and I think it's tremendously appropriate that they are recognized here

at the Pro Bowl and any other occasion." Three Purple Heart recipients escorted the admiral to the middle of the field, including Sgt. Catcher Cutstherope from First Battalion, Third Marine Regiment at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, who was wounded in action by a suicide bomber attack in Fallujah, Iraq.

"It felt pretty good to be out here. I felt like we got a good welcome home," said Cutstherope.

The Pro Bowl fans weren't the only people paying respects to those who serve, Boomer Esiason, retired NFL quarterback and CBS sports analyst had a few words to say about the service members and their actions.

"I had an uncle on the USS Nevada during Pearl Harbor, and my father was on the beaches of Normandy, so I can appreciate what it means to serve one's country, " said Esiason, a two-time Pro Bowler.

See PRO BOWL, C-4



Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander, U.S. Pacific Command walks off the field with Purple Heart recipient Sgt. Catcher Cutstherope, of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, just before the 47th Annual Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium. The NFL honored Purple Heart recipients from past and present conflicts during the pre-game show.

# Ocean lover surfs his way around the Marine Corps

<u>Cpl. Megan L. Stiner</u> Combat Correspondent

The early morning sun rises on a small beach in Kailua and, already, boards can be seen floating on the ocean carrying surfers who are hoping for at least one good wave. Among them is a young boy who is eager to learn the sport yet unaware that some day he will leave his beloved island — only to return to Kaneohe Bay as a military member with a lifetime of experience on the

"I have been surfing for thirty-two years," said 45-year-old Chief Warrant Officer John F. Kauffman. "I began surfing in Lanikai and at Shorebreak with my friends. I wasn't big on competing when I was young, but eventually I really got into it."

Kauffman was a member of the Kalaheo High School surfing team and began to realize he had talent at a young age.

"Although I competed in school, I really didn't get that into it until later on in life," admitted the all-around

Kauffman said that the competitive aspect of athletics appealed to

"I really have always enjoyed sports, but I more so enjoy competing and interacting with groups of individuals who share similar interests as mine," he explained.

Kauffman said he joined the Marine Corps at the age of 24 because he wanted to travel and break free from the civilian world to seek a lifestyle where he could enjoy a more camaraderie-like atmosphere.

Although he traveled from base to base, he continued surfing as he went. Kauffman was stationed at and surfed in North Carolina, Japan, Virginia and California. However, he said that it was in California that he began to get serious about surfing.

"Once I started competing in California, I was hooked and have been surfing ever since," he said, energetically. "I requested to come back to Hawaii after that, and I was lucky enough to get orders to K-Bay."

Kauffman, the father of a 15-yearold up and coming surfer, explained the thing he enjoys the most about surfing, besides competing, is the creative side of the sport.

"Due to the elements, surfing is a continuously changing sport. My

See SURF, C-5



John Kauffman competes in a surfing contest aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Sept. 25, 2004. The Hawaii native will compete Saturday at Pyramid Rock Beach.

# BASE SPORTS =



# Saturday

**Pyramid Beach Surf Showdown** — Waste no more time, sign up now for the Pyramid Beach Surf Showdown. It's going to be more than just fun in the sun when surfers come from across the base community to show their surf-worth at the first intramural surf meet of 2005. The meet hits the beach Sunday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is open to military of all services, dependents and DoD cardholders.

The competition divisions include youth surfing and body boarding for dependents ages 14 years and under as well as contestants age 15 to 9 years. Amateur surfers can battle it out in the Men's Division, 18 to 30 years; Men's Masters, 31 and up; the Women's Open, all ages; the Men's Longboard Division, all ages; and the Women's Longboard Division, all ages.

The entry fee is \$15 for adults, \$10 for youths; however, day-of-event entries will be charged an additional

# Intramural Sports Standings

Jtanan	83	
Women's Basketball	W	L
K-Bay	6	2
Camp Smith	4	4
PACOM	2	6
HQBN	1	7
Men's Basketball	W	L
HSL-37 "Easy Riders"	7	0
CSSG-3	1	0
MALS-24	8	1
VP-47 "Terror Squad"	7	2
HQBN "Demon Deacons	5	3
MAG-24	7	7
3rd Marine HQ	4	5
MCAF	3	5
HSL-37 "EZ-2"	2	5
3rd Radio Battalion	1	8
1/12	0	9
D 1 11	<b>T</b> 47	_
Baseball	W	L
VP-9	4	0
MAG-24	4	1
HQBN	3	1
VPU-2	2	3
1/12	0	1
VP-47	0	6
*Standings are current as of Friday.		

\$10 fee. Each additional division surfers decide to join will cost an additional \$5. Awards will be presented to the first-place winners in each division.

Entry forms can be found and dropped off at the MCB Hawaii Base Pool, Building 274, as well as at the beaches. Surfers may also register at the meet.

For more information, contact MCCS Aquatics at 254-7655.

## March 23

SNCO Golf Tournament — SNCO Club members and their guests are invited to play in this spring's SNCO Golf Tournament. The game begins with a shotgun start at noon at the Klipper Golf Course. The format will be a four-person, best ball scramble with an awards ceremony following the game. Call 254-5481 for further information.

#### March 24

SM&SP Shank & Slice

Golf Tournament —

It's going to be fair game on the fairways on March 24, as the Single Marine & Sailor Program's Shank & Slice Best-Ball Tournament

golfers hit the Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course.

This day on the links is open to unaccompanied E5, active duty Marines and Sailors; however, each player is allowed to invite one boss. Shank & Slicers will begin the tournament with a 1230 shotgun start and end with sodas, pupus and prizes.

The fee for the tournament is \$27

for E-5 and below and \$34 for everyone else. Fees include golf fees, golf cart, pupus, sodas and prizes. For those interested in participating and spending the day on the spectacular Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course, please call 254-7593. All entry forms are to be delivered to the Single Marine & Sailor Program located in Building 1629 or the Semper Fit Center.

## Ongoing

Cheer on your Favorite Team
— Head down to the Semper Fit
Center every Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Friday starting at 6:15 p.m. for men's
intramural basketball.

Cheer on the women's basketball teams as they hit the wood every Thursday starting at 6:15 p.m.

Intramural baseball games hit Riseley Field Monday through Friday at 6:30 p.m.

**Gut Cut** — Join Regina every Wednesday at 11:45 to 12:15 for a gut wrenching workout at the Semper Fit Center. This 30 minute workout will have your abs in rockhard shape in no time.

## Campground & Picnic Sites

— For picnic and camping sites, Marine Corps Base Hawaii offers some of the most scenic beaches on the island.

Three of those beaches, Pyramid Rock, Hale Koa and Fort Hase are available by reservation for picnics and parties from dawn to dusk. Hale Koa Beach may also be reserved for overnight camping. All beaches have picnic pavilions and barbecue grills.

Reservations are required. For reservations, call 254-7666 for Kaneohe or 477-5143 for Camp Smith

Semper Fit Center Offers it

All — The Semper Fit Center has an aerobic class for anyone and everyone trying to meet that New Year's resolution. Check out as many of the following programs as you would like; Yoga, Cycling, Tai Chi, cardio-Kick, Gut Cut, Step-Challenge, Water Aerobics, Pilates, Marathon Training and much, much more.

For class information, call the Semper Fit Center at 254-7597.

**Gone Fishin'** — Join Mahalo Kai Fishing

Charters for a day beyond the bay. Located at the Base Marina, the charter contractor now has two different boats to accommodate all of your fishing needs.

EMPER

Check out its newest boat, the Bill Collector, built for charter fishing at its finest and most comfortable.

Call 254-7667 for more details.

**Inexpensive, Fun Entertainment** — Look no further for economical entertainment Mondays through Thursdays, all E-5 and below can receive free rental shoes and discounted games at only \$1.50 a game. This discount is good for open play, but does not qualify for tournaments, leagues or unit functions.

Call the K-Bay Lanes at 254-7693 to get the spin.

**Color Pin Special** — Every Wednesday, roll a strike. When a col-

ored pin is in the headpin position you can win up to three free games of bowling. All patrons are welcome to take advantage of this deal. If you make the play, you win!

Call the K-Bay Lanes 254-7693.

**Parents for Fitness** — This cooperative baby-sitting effort is available at the Semper Fit Center for children ages 6 weeks and older.

All active duty service members and their families may participate; however, PFFP participants are required to volunteer baby-sit three times per month.

Call 235-6585 for more information.

**Paintball Hawaii** — Nestled behind the Lemon Lot, by the intersection of Harris Road and Mokapu

Road, stands Paintball
Hawaii. Shoot over for the great deals and have a blast with your friends.

Cost is only \$25 per per-

son, and the fee includes one air refill, equipment and the field fee. Players can purchase paint at the field from \$45 to \$50 for a case of 2,000 balls. The field is open on weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Call 265-4283 for Friday appointments.

**Junior Lifeguards** — The Base Pool is currently offering Junior Lifeguard instruction for the youth at MCB Hawaii. Let your kids enhance their skills and abilities in the water, plus gain confidence and experience.

For more information, call 254-7655.

Massage Therapy — Massage therapy, by certified massage therapists, is available at both Kaneohe Bay and Camp Smith. The massage therapy program will help relieve your mental and physical fatigue and improve your overall circulation and body tone.

Choose from Shiatsu, Swedish, Lomi, deep-tissue and even Hot Rock Therapy. Appointments are available by calling the K-Bay Semper Fit Center at 254-7597, or Camp Smith at 477-5197.

**Okinawa Kenpo Karate** — Every Tuesday and Thursday, join MCCS Youth Activities' contractor for Kenpo Karate Kobudo classes, held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in Building 1391, located behind the 7-Day

Adults and children are welcome, and costs are only \$35 for adults and \$25 for children. Additional family members cost \$20.

Call MCCS Youth Activities for information at 254-7610.

# **Semper Fit Group Exercise – February 2005**

## Monday

8:45 – 10 a.m. — Step 2 It 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Gut Cut 4:45 – 5:45 p.m. — Cycling 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. — Pilates

#### Tuesday

6 – 7 a.m. — Cycling 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. — Muscle Conditioning 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. — Yoga 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. — H.I.T.S. 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Butt Cut 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. — Hi/Lo Intervals 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. — Step & Tone

## Wednesday

6 – 7 a.m. — Cycling 8:45 – 10 a.m. — Step Challenge 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Gut Cut 4:45 – 5:45 p.m. — Cycling 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. — Pilates

# **Thursday** 6 – 7 a.m. — Cycling

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. — Muscle Conditioning 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. — H.I.T.S. 12 – 1 p.m. — Tai Chi 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. — Hi/Lo Intervals 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. — Step & Tone

## Friday

8:45 – 10 a.m. — Step 2 It 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Gut Cut 4:45 – 5:45 p.m. — Cycling 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. — Pilates

## Saturday

9 – 10:30 a.m. — Step & Tone

Note: Cycling classes are \$3 each. Tai Chi classes are \$20 per month for one class per week.

# COMMUNITY SPORTS

# HTMC to Hike Mokuleia Sunday

Join the Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club on an 8-mile, intermediate hike to a secluded campsite. The nicely graded trail provides a relatively painless climb to an overlook of Makua Valley along the Waianae summit. At



the end of the trail, hikers can check out the campsite and gear of HTMC members who camped the night before. Reach coordinator Doug Klein by phoning 235-8330 for detailed information.

Hikers should meet at Iolani Palace at 8 a.m. for the hike. A \$2 donation is requested for each nonmember, age 18 or older. A responsible adult must accompany children under 18.

Bring lunch and water on all hikes, and wear sturdy shoes and clothing. Firearms, pets, radios, and other audio devices are prohibited

Check out the HTMC Web site at www.geo cities.com/Yosemite/Trails/3660 for more infor-

# 2005 Sports Car Racing Gears Up

The Hawaii Region Sports Car Club of America will host six major races in 2005 and Solo II races on both Oahu and Maui.

Solo II, or Autocross, is held at the Hawaii Raceway Park at Campbell Industrial Park on Oahu and costs \$25 per driver. About 70 to 90 cars, from stock vehicles to race cars, normally compete. The event is purely amateur, but anybody can participate.

Each driver receives four runs through the sports car course, and the driver with the single fastest time in the class wins.

Points acquired throughout the year accumulate for prizes and trophies presented at year's end. Minimum participation in more than half of the year's races is required to be in the running for points and the run-off championship.

Races are scheduled as follows: March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3, Aug. 14, Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Nov. 13 and Dec. 26. For more details, call Curtis Lee at 262-5987.

The Wheel-to-Wheel and Solo I racing events are regional sports car races at Hawaii Raceway Park. All drivers must pass a driver's school to obtain a competition license, as the cars are raced at speeds of up to 140 mph, and passing is permitted.

Both the driver and vehicle must comply with a number of safety features before they are granted race entry.

Future races will be on the following dates: March 25, May 15, July 10, Sept. 5 and Nov. 26. For more details, call Ed Hollman at 488-1782.

# Great Aloha Run set for Monday

Hundreds of runners have already registered for the 21st annual Great Aloha Run. Annually, the 8.15-mile "fun run" brings in more than 20,000 runners from Hawaii, the U.S. Mainland and overseas to raise funds for more than 100 charitable organizations, community groups and elderly care in Hawaii.

Monday's, President's Day race starts at Aloha Tower Marketplace, following Nimitz Highway to Aloha Stadium

Highway to Aloha Stadium.

Race fees are \$18 for children, 12 and under and adults 65 and older; and \$25 for individual and team runners. Entry fees are \$30 for adults. Registration forms can be obtained at the Running Room, Runners HI, Runners Route, Sports Authority, Tesoro Gas Stations and all health and fitness centers. Log on to www.GreatAlohaRun.com for information.

#### Fort DeRussy Hosts Biathlon and Keiki Run-Swim-Run

The entry deadline for the Biathlon and Keiki Run-Swim-Run is Feb. 26 (late entries add \$7). There is no guarantee of a T-shirt for late entries. Pick up a packet on March 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and March 9 from at 4 p.m. to 8.m. at the Hale Koa Hotel POiNT Health Club, or apply online at www.active.com.

For more information, call 955-9151.



# 2005 Perimeter Run Gears Up

Seven-member teams will trek approximately 134 miles in 35 legs of varying lengths to complete the 2005 Perimeter Run around Oahu. The race will begin at Neil S. Blaisdell Park in Aiea, and runners will travel counterclockwise around the island.

Competitors will start at various times, from

7 to 11 p.m., Feb. 26.

Entry fees are \$350 through Tuesday, and \$400 thereafter. Entries are limited to 125 teams. Entry fees must be submitted by midnight on the dates stated above. There is no guarantee of team enrollment for late entries.

All entry fees are non-refundable.

Each runner receives a T-shirt and a finish-

er's award. T-shirts for support crew may be ordered using the entry form at \$10 per shirt. Payment for extra shirts must be submitted with entry fees. Athletes can register online at www.Active.com. or call 589-2646 for more information.

# State Offers Free Outdoor Education

The Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources is offering education classes for the public. Subjects covered include firearms and archery safety, survival and first aid, wildlife identification; and conservation, regulations, game care and outdoor responsibility.

Attendance at two sessions is required for certification, and classes are open to anyone 10 years or older who enjoys the outdoors — not just hunters.

The next two-day session is Feb. 25 from 5:45 to 10 p.m. and Feb. 26 from 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Classroom A-212 at the Nimitz Business Center, 1130 N. Nimitz Hwy. (Drive up the ramp to the classroom, which is the first room on the right.)

A picture ID is required for entry to the sessions. For more information about outdoor education, or to sign up for this course, call 587-0200 or visit www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/Welcome.html.

# Straub/Kapiolani Women's 10K

For 28 years, women of all ages have come together in a celebration of friendship and good health at the Straub/Kapiolani Women's 10K. Elite runners, serious runners, race walkers, beginners and recreational walkers participate in this race. Mothers and daughters, students, the military and visitors have made the Straub/Kapiolani Women's 10K a tradition.

Registration fees for the March 6 race are \$25

through Feb. 28 and \$30 at packet pickup. Packet pickup is March 5 at NikeTown, 2080 Kalakaua Ave., from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. or race day at Kapiolani Bandstand from 6 to 6:45 a.m. Volunteers are also needed to make this

Volunteers are also needed to make this event a success.

Runners can register online at www.active.com. Runners and volunteers can also get registration forms from www.straub health.com/events/index.asp. Call 522-4395 for more information.

# **Bellows Offers Adventure Programs**Whether you are spending a few weeks of

Whether you are spending a few weeks or just visiting for the day, check out any of the following weekly Bellows Outdoor Adventures

programs.

•Saturdays at 8 a.m., Morning Paddle: Take the guided kayak tour to the Mokulua Islands, which offers the opportunity to see birds up close in their natural habitat. Cost is \$14.

Advanced skill level is required.
•Saturdays at 1 p.m., History Tours by van:
Learn about and see significant historical land-

marks on Bellows Air Force Station.

• Sundays at 8:30 a.m., History Tours by bike:
Ride mountain bikes for an extensive 7-mile,
three-hour, guided tour of Bellows AFS. Wear
closed-toe shoes. Cost is \$15 for bike and hel-

met rental.

•Mondays at 8:30 a.m., Hike to Makapuu: Take a moderate 2.5-mile roundtrip hike to the Makapuu Lighthouse. Wear closed-toe shoes. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and

•Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m., Snorkeling Tour: Discover the magnificent underwater world of the ocean at a nearby, undisturbed reef. Transportation, instruction and snorkeling equipment are included. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under

•Wednesdays and Thursdays at 1 p.m., Kayaking Lessons: Master ocean-kayaking skills, including water safety and efficient paddling techniques in this two-hour class. Cost is free

with a day bicycle rental.

• Thursdays at 9 a.m., Beach 101: See fascinating natural phenomena as you wade across sea-

weed-covered reef flats and rock tide pools.
This is an educational experience for the
whole family. Be sure to wear comfortable
footwear, a hat, swimsuit, sunscreen,

and bring water.

• Thursdays at 8 a.m., Free Aloha
Breakfast in the Recreation Center Lanai:
Find out about all the exciting programs
and specials happening at Bellows. Enjoy a free
continental breakfast and sign-up to win door

prizes. For more information, call 259-4112.

•Fridays at 1 p.m., Body-boarding Lessons:
Learn how to catch and ride the waves. Free day rental of boogie board is included.

For program information, call the Turtle Cove office at 259-4121 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. or visit www.bellowsafs.com.

# Hawaii Marine Accepts Briefs

Advertise sports and recreational activities of interest to the DoD community in the *Hawaii Marine*.

E-mail items to editor@hawaiimarine.com, call the *Hawaii Marine* staff at 257-8836 or fax items to 257-1289.



# THE BOTTOM LINE

Editor's Note: "The Bottom Line" is the **Hawaii Marine's** weekly sports commentary from two sports aficionados who rarely see eye-to-eye when it comes to America's one true obsession — sports. Chances are you'll either agree with one of their takes or disagree with both. The **Hawaii Marine** welcomes your e-mails of no more than 250 words. We will print the top comment of the week from our readers. Send "Readers Strike Back" comments to editor@hawaiimarine.com. Remember, "If you don't speak up, you won't be heard."

# What kind of man is Karl Malone?

Sgt. Joe Lindsay

The Goat

Vanessa Bryant: "Hi Karl. How are you doing?"

Karl Malone: "Pretty good Vanessa. How about you?"

Vanessa Bryant: "I'm alright. Nice cowboy hat. What are you hunting?"

Karl Malone: "Thanks. I like your get-up too. I'm hunting pretty girls."

The following conversation, or perhaps (or perhaps not) one not too far from it, made international headlines recently after Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant accused Karl "The Mailman" Malone of hitting on his wife, Vanessa.

Almost anything Kobe can do to steer the focus away from Eagle, Colo., to both his wife and the public-at-large, is probably to his advantage. This latest episode in the Kobe soap opera, however, is just plain ridiculous. And what is worse than this drama either occurring or not occurring is not that Kobe leaked it to the press, but that the newspapers just can't stay away from it.

It should sicken true NBA fans that on the cusp of Malone's recent retirement, sportswriters across the nation are questioning whether The Mailman's legacy has been tarnished as a result of his leaving the Utah Jazz to chase his dream of an NBA title with the Lakers. Whether or not he chased anything else shouldn't even enter the equation. But it has, and "The Bottom Line" is as guilty as anyone for even addressing it.

Vanessa got her ring. A four million dollar ring that Kobe bought for her to say "sorry" for commit-

ting, at the very least, adultery.

Malone never got his ring. But he gave up a lot more than four million dollars in less salary when he signed with the Lakers before the 2003-04 seasons. But then again, for Malone, his quest for a ring wasn't about money. It was about nothing more than finally being on a championship team after coming so close with the Utah team he became synonymous with, only to twice run into a dreamending Chicago Bulls squad led by Michael Jordan in the NBA Finals.

But still, for a country boy from Summerfield, La., and for a man who plans to retire to his ranch in El Dorado, Ark., Malone didn't do too badly. The list of his accomplishments on the court is expansive: Two-time NBA MVP ('97, '99); named one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history ('96); 11-time NBA first team selection; 14-time All-Star, including co-MVP in '93; holds NBA record for most consecutive years scoring 2,000 points or more in a season (11); ranks second all-time in points scored with 36,374, trailing only Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's 38,387; two-time Olympic Gold Medalist ('92, '96). The list goes on.

**Bottom Line:** Karl Malone could have stuck around for a couple more years to break Kareem's record. He could have signed with the San Antonio Spurs last week for a chance at the NBA championship that has sadly eluded him. But Malone has had enough. There will be no comparisons with Willie Mays in baseball or Jake LaMotta in boxing — athletes who didn't know when to say goodbye. Malone has retired, and he will be missed. His legacy as one of the greatest to ever play the game of basketball is secure.

Capt. K.D. Robbins

The Professor

On July 24, 1963, a prominent Arkansas cattle rancher, tireless philanthropist, enterprising restaurateur and proud father was born. Oh yeah, he also happens to be the National Basketball Association's second all-time leading scorer, a two-time NBA most valuable player, a 14-time All-Star, two-time Olympic gold medalist and a selection as one of the NBA's "50 Greatest Players in NBA History."

Karl Anthony Malone came a long way from the humblest of beginnings in Summerfield, La. and an above-average college basketball career at Louisiana Tech University.

A long way indeed ... as if the 36,374 career points and three NBA Finals appearances weren't enough, the six-foot, nine-inch, 259 pound Malone single-handedly redefined the power forward position.

No player in NBA history can match Malone's combination of quickness, power, fundamentals and athleticism. Kevin McHale could fill it. Charles Barkley had ups. Ben Wallace crashes the boards like no other and Larry Johnson was a beast. Yet, not one of the aforementioned superstars could deliver the total

"package" like "The Mailman."

Malone was even more impressive off the court. The 1997 "Utahan of the Year" has been recognized as one of The Sporting News' 1999 "99 Good Guys in Sports," the 1998 Henry B. Iba award winner for athletes who go out of their way to help others and he continues to be an active member in Utah Special Olympics, despite a trade to the Los Angeles Lakers last season.

As players are often measured by their value to other teams, remember that Malone became a Laker at the request of Shaquille O'Neal. And, despite knee surgery and a 41-year old birthday, Shaq wanted him in Miami, Tim Duncan wanted him in San Antonio and the defending NBA champion Pistons wanted deliveries in Detroit.

**Bottom Line:** Despite the fact that Mrs. Professor once referred to him as "The Postman," Karl Malone's legacy is simple. He is the best power forward ever to play the game of basketball. He is the face, with all do respect to Pete Maravich and John Stockton, of the Utah Jazz franchise. He is the father of a WNBA All-Star. He is the founder of the Karl Malone Foundation for Kids. The Mailman is one of a kind.

# READERS STRIKE BACK

"They (Patriots) have totally distinguished themselves as the 'all powerful' family in the NFL."

Dear Professor & Goat:

The idea that the Patriots are considered a "Dynasty" is an understatement. Let's not bring in the mere definition for dynasty to be related to a family or group even though that you can classify the Patriots as a family. Instead, let's bring a more realistic word for this family into play ... like ... "Omniscient!" They (Patriots) have

totally distinguished themselves as the "all powerful" family in the NFL. How else can you define the idea of them beating a team like Pittsburgh who had a better record and should have beaten the Patriots, but (Pittsburgh) were defined as "inferior" because they cannot close the deal (hence the 1995 Super bowl against the Cowboys). The Patriots (3 times out of 4 years) have closed the deal! There have been no

questions in each of the Super bowls where you didn't know the outcome of the game after the first quarter (this super bowl not included). The statistics that Tom Brady puts up leads no one to question his ability to lead his team, once again, to the '05 Super bowl.

Wes Pyke Clarkstown, Mich,

# Easy tips can help child's teeth last a lifetime

**Navy Lt. Thomas Mullen** 

MCRD Dental Clinic

Tooth decay is still the most common chronic childhood disease that will not resolve without treatment. Children need strong, healthy teeth to chew their food, speak and have a good-looking smile. Total health, both physical and mental, is enhanced through good dental health habits learned early and reinforced throughout life.

With these facts in mind, the American Dental Association has declared February as Children's Dental Health Month.

All Naval Dental Center Southwest dental commands, including Branch Dental Clinic Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, wholeheartedly support the ADA in this endeavor.

"Children's dental health is extremely

important, and Children's Dental Health in Akron, Ohio. Month is a worthwhile event," said Cmdr. Jerome McSwain, clinic director, MCRD Dental. "We will allocate time and personnel to contact children and parents in our community with the good news of oral hygiene."

MCRD Dental plans to attempt to contact 1,200 children in February, by providing toothbrushes, dental floss, oral hygiene instruction, classroom presentations, healthy smile coloring sheets and a poster contest.

Since 1941, the observance has grown from a two-city event into a nationwide program.

The annual observance of children's dental health began as a one-day event in Cleveland Feb. 3, 1941. During that year, Feb. 3 to Feb. 7 was designed as Children's Dental Health Week

The ADA held the first national observance of Children's Dental Health Day Feb. 8, 1949. The single-day observance became a week-long event in 1955. In 1981, the program was

extended to a month-long celebration known today as National Children's Dental Health Month. National messages reach millions of people in communities across the country and at numerous armed service bases abroad.

Children's smiles can remain healthy with regular dental checkups and good oral hygiene.

Here are some tips to ensure children's healthy smiles will last a lifetime:

•The ADA recommends a visit to the dentist within six months of the eruption of the first

tooth, and no later than the child's first birth-

•Never allow an infant to nurse continuously from a bottle of milk, formula, sugar water or fruit juice during naps or at night. Serious

"baby bottle tooth decay" can be a result. •Parents need to brush and floss their child's teeth as soon as the teeth come in. Children can

learn to do this for themselves at about age 7. •When a child's permanent molars come in, ask about sealants if the pits and fissures in the teeth are deep.

•Allow children to chew only sugarless gum. Avoid lollipops and other sticky candy.

•If a child plays sports, make sure he or she always wears a mouth guard.

For any additional information, contact 21st

Dental aboard MCB Hawaii at 257-5089.

## PRO BOWL, From C-1

"We're lucky that we have some of the bravest and the brightest people in the world. You're talking about people who have enlisted into our military, voluntarily, after 2001 because they feel a sense of patriotism and pride. Those of us who live within these freedoms are so grateful that they put their lives on the line for us everyday."

Along with the recipients, the crowd also gazed upon the color guard details from all the military services.

"This is my second year presenting the colors at the Pro-Bowl said Sgt. Charlie Coulter, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, color sergeant. "It's a good feeling to come out and hear all the cheers from the crowd. It gives us a real sense of pride to be Marines."

Another fan of the service members was Pittsburg Steelers and Pro Bowl 2005 American Football Conference coach Bill Cowher, who also had a few words of sup-

"Obviously we support them 100 percent," said Cowher. "What they do makes our jobs minute. They are serving our country, and any way we can reward them and acknowledge them is all the better."



# For better dental health

Brig. Gen. George J. Trautman III (center) signed a proclamation Monday, citing February as Children's Dental Health Month. With the commanding general of MCB Hawaii is Petty Officer 1st Class Edward Huffman (back), a Snowdown, Ala. native; Navy Lt. Thu Luu (left), a Tampa Fla. native and Navy Capt. Greg Kvaska, a Cleveland, Ohio native. The annual observance of children's dental health began as a one-day event in Cleveland Feb. 3, 1941 and has spread to a nation-wide monthlong celebration.

## BASEBALL, From C-1

basemen Bownas was able to score the game's final run, ending the game 8-2 Eagles.

"The VP-9 Eagles are having a very strong season thus far with a 4-0 standing after a close call on the 8th and a victory over the 1/12," said Eagles Coach Matthew Lawyer. "David Harrington pitched a great game and stole third to later get a base hit allowing him to take home." Lawyer went on to explain. "We started off the night knowing we had a team that was going to challenge us. They put on a great show and we played some really good baseball coming out on top with an 8-2 victory. They are a good team and the Eagles are looking forward to seeing them in the future."

#### SURF, From C-1

son surfs, but not like I did. He does it just as a hobby because of the enjoyment of it," he said. "The weather can be sunny or rainy, and the surf is always different. It is always fun to go out there and not know exactly what to expect."

Although he has been to a plethora of different beaches around the world, Kauffman insists Pyramid Rock Beach on Kaneohe Bay is the best surfing area he has experienced.

"We are lucky enough to be on a base that has some of the most consistent surfing conditions on the island," he said. "All year round, we have decent waves. There aren't a lot of places out there that can say that."

The avid surfer intends to compete in the Pyramid Rock Beach Surf Showdown Saturday.

"I enjoy competing, but at my age, I am beginning to relax more and just go out to be around people who share the same interests I do and get out and do something I enjoy," he said. "Participation is the best part. The more people we get out there on the waves, the more fun it is for everyone."

The competition opens to registration at 7 a.m. and is open to all military, family members and DoD cardholders. The registration fee is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. For more information call 254-7655.

## BASKETBALL, From C-1

points on the board for their team, 28-21.

The Demon Deacons not pleased with the thought of their opponents digging out of the hole begin to destroy any morale their opponents could

hope to build. For the next seven minutes of the half, just about anyone viewing this game would agree that Radio Battalion was helpless.

Lead by guard Antonio Brown, the Demon Deacons unleashed a rampage of buckets. One would have thought the constant friction of the ball going through net would have started a small fire. By this point the scoreboard was truly leaning on its side, as it read, 41-21 with 10 minutes still to go.

Feeling no mercy for their opponent the onslaught continued until the clock wound down, Demon Deacons ended the game 61-30.

"The first half we played around to much, and didn't focus enough on the objective at hand," said Demon Deacons center Robert Griffin. "We let a 9-0 run slip right out of our hands. We suffered from a lot of turnovers and didn't get into our offensive sets. The second half, we did really well with rebound and second shots. As I said in the beginning of the season we always start off shaky, but show that we are a force to be reckoned with."



STATE STATE

Demon Deacons guard Antonio brown sets for the three as Radio Battalion's point guard Victor Avalos attempts to block the shot in intramural basketball action at the Semper Fit Center Monday.